

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

NEWS RELEASE



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2012 Yukon River Summer Salmon Fishery News Release #60 **Summer Announcement #53, Subdistricts 6-A and 6-B Subsistence Fishing** Districts Affected: Upper Yukon Area

Based on the assessment information to date, the Chinook salmon run is poor. The Pilot Station sonar cumulative passage estimate of approximately 104,000 Chinook salmon through July 17 is well below the historical average of 145,700 for this date and is also below the average passage estimates at this point for late run years of approximately 130,700.

Consistent with management actions taken in Districts 1-5, measures are being implemented in Subdistricts 6-A, 6-B, and the Old Minto Area in order to conserve Chinook salmon for escapement.

Subdistricts 6-A and 6-B including the Old Minto Area (from the mouth of the Tanana River upstream to the downstream mouth of Wood River): This area includes the communities of Manley, Minto, and Nenana. Effective 6:00 p.m. Friday, July 20, subsistence fishing will be restricted to fish wheels only that must be equipped with a chute and all Chinook salmon caught in fish wheels must be returned to the water alive. Fish wheels must be closely attended while in operation. Gillnets will not be allowed to be used. These gear restrictions will be in effect until further notice.

The department will notify fishermen by July 22 concerning restrictions during the next subsistence salmon fishing period and schedule for Subdistricts 6-A, 6-B, and the Old Minto Area.

Subsistence fishermen are reminded that a subsistence fishing permit is required to fish for salmon in the Tanana River drainage. Subsistence fishermen fishing in Subdistrict 6-B three miles upstream of the mouth of Totchaket Slough are required to report their harvest catches to the department by **4:30 PM Thursday** each week by contacting the department at **(907) 459-7388**. When you call, provide your name, permit number, fishing location, and daily catch by

species for that week.

During subsistence salmon fishing closures, fish wheels may not be operated and gillnets with a mesh size greater than four inches and a length greater than 60 feet must be removed from the water.

Recorded fishery announcements and updates are available 24 hours a day at 1-866-479-7387 (toll free outside of Fairbanks); in Fairbanks, call (907) 459-7387. If you have any questions regarding this report, please call the Fairbanks ADF&G office at (907) 459-7274.

This has been an announcement by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

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